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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

<i>Application Number</i>	08/960,557
<i>Filing Date</i>	31 October 1997
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Eugenio Cefali
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	1615
<i>Examiner Name</i>	J.M. Spear
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	50454-56103USCIP

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1.	Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> Previously submitted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____ iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
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2.	Miscellaneous <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Petition to Withdraw Application From Issue Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.313(c)(2) and <u>Petition to Expunge Information Under 37 C.F.R. 1.59</u>
3.	Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. <u>50-2543</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) iii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Petition to Withdraw Application From Issue fee of \$130.00 and <u>Petition to Expunge Information Fee of \$130.00</u> b. <input type="checkbox"/> Check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed c. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print/Type)	Karen J. Messick	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,256
Signature	Date January 4, 2005		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:			
Name (Print/Type)		Date	AK
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S. P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES AND COMPLETED FORMS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.